REVOLUTION CONCEPTS IN MARX AND ENGELS

In Marx and Engels, we see the concept of three types of revolution: Political revolution, social revolution and permanent revolution.
According to Marx and Engels, the political revolution is the transition of political power into a more progressive administration accordingly to historical process, taking down the existing reactionary power. In order for a movement to become a political revolution, it is essential that at least a significant part of the masses of the people struggle for power.
Only and if only power falls into revolutionary hands as a result of the uprising of the masses, political revolution can be mentioned.
Second, according to Marx and Engels, in order for a

movement to be considered a political revolution, it is essential that the administration formed as a result of this movement be progressive and democratic. This definition of Marx relates to the bourgeois society of the pre-monopoly period. The measure of progressivism in Marks and Engels is quite interesting. As a measure of a movement's progressivism, says Marx: "Public credit and private credit are the economic thermometer by which the intensity of a revolution can be measured. *The more they fall, the more the fervor and generative power of the revolution rises."(*The Class Struggles in France, 1848 to 1850, Part I **T**he Defeat of June, 1848)
Only and only one administration can deliver a fatal blow to public loans and private loans; it is the proletarian administration. In this regard, the political revolution, which has the highest destructive violence and creative power on the ground of bourgeois society, is the revolution of the proletariat. This revolution also enables social transformation (social revolution). Because this revolution will eliminate bourgeois credit and the stock market. This, on the other hand, is the disappearance of bourgeois production and regime; it is the transition to a new social and economic order.
The February Revolution of 1848 was a political revolution. The revolution aimed at the financial aristocracy failed to deal a fatal blow to public credit and private credit, but limited it. The February Revolution

did not end the bourgeois regime, but only ended the rule of a reactionary faction of it; it expanded and deepened the framework of democratic rights and freedoms.

The February Revolution was not a social revolution because it did not end the bourgeois regime; but it is a political revolution because as a result of the uprising of the masses, the reactionary rule of the financial aristocracy was brought down and replaced by a more progressive administration that found its expression in the Social Republic.

Marx's definition of social revolution (he calls it real revolution) is based on the transition from a style of production to a more advanced style of production. Marx says on this:

“At a certain stage of development, the material productive forces of society come into conflict with the existing relations of production or — this merely expresses the same thing in legal terms — with the property relations within the framework of which they have operated hitherto. From forms of development of the productive forces these relations turn into their fetters. Then begins an era of *social revolution*. The changes in the economic foundation lead sooner or later to the transformation of the whole immense superstructure.... The bourgeois mode of production is the last antagonistic form of the social process of

production — antagonistic not in the sense of individual antagonism but of an antagonism that emanates from the individuals' social conditions of existence — but the productive forces developing within bourgeois society create also the material conditions for a solution of this antagonism."(**Karl Marx, "A Contribution to the Critique of Political economy")**
As can be seen immediately, the aspect that outweighs the revolutionary theories of Marks and Engels is economic and social determinism. The role of volantirism is within the defining framework of material conditions. According to this understanding, the political revolution is the complement of the social revolution. Political revolution is the product of a revolutionary initiative within the defining framework of material conditions. (When we say proletarian revolution, we mean political and social revolution.)

If we divide it into elements:
1 -) Political revolution is unavoidable and mandatory stage of social revolution.
Political revolution is the work of revolutionary breakthrough. Revolution is the work of an organization that drives the masses after it, is conscious and knows what to do. This is especially the case for the political revolution that will lead to socialist transformation. A minority organization with a discipline such as iron

makes a political revolution and provides socialist transformation by raising the consciousness of the masses, raising the level of consciousness and action of the masses, using the revolutionary initiative in place and in time. Revolution is the result of the action of the conscious masses and is based on the masses. But the revolutionary breakthrough of the organization of revolutionaries, whose profession is revolutionism, is vital here. (Pacifists always underestimate the role of the revolutionary initiative.)

2 -) In order for the political revolution to achieve social transformation (it is said for the pre-monopoly period. In order for there to be a revolution in the era in which we live), that is, for there to be a social revolution, on the one hand, historical conditions, economic and social structure must be sufficient, and on the other hand, the level of consciousness and organization of the masses of the people must be high. Not only does the revolutionary initiative play a decisive role in the social revolution. Not historical heroes, but heroes make history.
The history of revolutions, despite the seizure of power, is filled with the failure of the revolutionary initiative due to the lack of objective conditions (despite its heroism of all kinds). From the Münzer movement to Sheikh Bedrettin and the Paris Commune, history has been the

scene of the defeats of the revolutionary initiative, which is not in line with the material foundations of that era. If a revolutionary breakthrough in a certain period, no matter how powerful, makes it impossible for this breakthrough to achieve victory in that historical period, the conditions of material life are a result destined for defeat if it has not reached a certain maturity for this breakthrough to succeed.

The dialectical unity between the revolutionary initiative and historical and social determinism, while analyzing Münzer's movement, Engels brilliantly demonstrates: "The worst thing that can befall a leader of an extreme party is to be compelled to take over a government in an epoch when the movement is not yet ripe for the domination of the class which he represents and for the realisation of the measures which that domination would imply. What he *can* do depends not upon his will but upon the sharpness of the clash of interests between the various classes, and upon the degree of development of the material means of existence, the relations of production and means of communication upon which the clash of interests of the classes is based every time. What he *ought* to do, what his party demands of him, again depends not upon him, or upon the degree of development of the class struggle and its conditions. He is bound to his doctrines and the demands hitherto propounded which do not emanate

from the interrelations of the social classes at a given moment, or from the more or less accidental level of relations of production and means of communication, but from his more or less penetrating insight into the general result of the social and political movement. Thus he necessarily finds himself in a dilemma. What he *can* do is in contrast to all his actions as hitherto practised, to all his principles and to the present interests of his party; what he *ought* to do cannot be achieved. In a word, he is compelled to represent not his party or his class, but the class for whom conditions are ripe for domination. In the interests of the movement itself, he is compelled to defend the interests of an alien class, and to feed his own class with phrases and promises, with the assertion that the interests of that alien class are their own interests. Whoever puts himself in this awkward position is irrevocably lost." (The Peasant War in Germany by Frederick Engels, chapter vi)

In the theory of revolution, Marx reveals the relationship and contradiction between the revolutionary initiative and economic and social decertification as follows: "Men make their own history, but they do not make it as they please; they do not make it under self-selected circumstances, but under circumstances existing already, given and transmitted from the past."(The

Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte. Karl Marx 1852)

And Marx explains the reason for the revolutions against reactionaries, who claim that the revolutions are the work of a handful of instigators, as follows:
"The time has passed for superstition, which makes revolutions seem the product of the will of malicious provocateurs. Everywhere a revolution shake occurs, everyone now knows that this shake is born out of social needs that cannot be satisfied by outdated institutions." (In 1851, from Marx's discourse before the members of the Judicial Council of Cologne, quoted by Henri Lefebvre, 'The Sociology of Marx')

The matter is clear. In order for the revolutionary initiative to succeed in its role, it is essential that the revolution sit on a material base.
In other words, the revolutionary infrastructure, that revolutionary breakthrough should reach a certain level to achieve victory.
"A material basis is needed for revolutions. Unless the theory represents the realization of its own needs, it cannot happen decidedly among a people. It is not enough for the thought to be directed towards the realization, the realization must be directed towards the thought." (Marx)

Translated by @nazbolunion admins